CALL FOR PAPERS

Special issue: ‘Rural entrepreneurship theory in the developing world’

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Rural entrepreneurship plays a key role in capturing innovation, maintaining and developing communities, providing job opportunities and moderating the relationship between farming, land use, community and economic development. Despite this importance, as an academic field rural entrepreneurship is predominantly focused on the developed world (Pato and Teixeira, 2014). To put this into context, 20% of the population in OECD countries live in rural areas, compared with 63% in Sub-Saharan Africa.

It has been suggested that entrepreneurship research either ignores emerging economies or at best uses them as test-beds for theories established in mature economies (Brunton et al, 2008). The theoretical crossover between research into rural entrepreneurship and international development through entrepreneurship is limited and this special issue aims for a realignment of boundaries between them.

The special issue calls for original multidisciplinary papers that explore the explanatory power of concepts common to either rural entrepreneurship or international development in the broader theoretical context. Papers should encompass the developing and developed rural contexts and may relate to ontology/epistemology, ‘grand theory’, or key concepts in rural entrepreneurship or international development and may take the form of:

1. Rural entrepreneurship approaches in the context of international development
2. International development approaches in the context of rural entrepreneurship
3. Methodological approaches suitable to both fields that enable comparative analysis
4. A teaching case that explores key issues common to both domains

We welcome papers from any methodology and strongly encourage collaboration between colleagues in developing and developed countries.

Abstracts should be submitted by 30 June 2015, with final papers due by 30 October 2015. The special issue will be published during 2016. Contact robert.newbery@plymouth.ac.uk for further information. For more on the journal: http://www.ippublishing.com/ije.htm, for previous special issues of relevance look at: ‘Catalysing international entrepreneurship’, Vol 10, No 3, and ‘Listening to voices from the margins of entrepreneurship’, Vol 8, No 4.

References